

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is :

1. A process for the production of a coating layer from a thermally curable coating composition on a substrate, comprising the successive steps:
  - a) providing a substrate to be coated,
  - b) applying a backing foil coated on one side with an uncured or at least only partially cured coating layer of a thermally curable coating composition, with its coated side on the entire surface or at least one sub-zone of the surface of the substrate,
  - c) supplying thermal energy onto the entire coating applied in step b), and
  - d) removing the backing foil from the coating which remains on the substrate;wherein the supply of thermal energy onto the coating proceeds prior to and/or after removal of the backing foil.
2. The process of claim 1, wherein the supply of thermal energy onto the coating proceeds at least partially through the backing foil.
3. The process of claim 1, wherein the substrate to be coated is provided with a precoating comprising at least one layer.
4. The process of claim 1, wherein the surface of the backing foil in adherence with the coating is textured.
5. The process of claim 1, wherein the uncured or at least only partially cured coating layer in step b) is a coating layer with a tacky surface.

6. The process of claim 1, wherein the thermally curable coating composition applied in step b) contains at least one binder with free-radically polymerizable olefinic double bonds.
- 5 7. The process of claim 1, wherein the thermally curable coating composition applied in step b) contains at least one binder cross-linkable by reactions selected from the group consisting of condensation reactions, addition reactions and combinations thereof.
- 10 8. The process of claim 1, wherein the coated backing foil is applied in step b) with pressure.
- 15 9. The process of claim 1, wherein the coated backing foil is applied in step b) with pressure and heat.
10. The process of claim 1, wherein the supply of thermal energy proceeds in step c) by using a method selected from the group consisting of radiant heating, convection, induction heating, contact heating and any combination thereof.
- 20 11. The process of claim 1, wherein the substrates provided in step a) are selected from the group consisting of automotive bodies, body parts and body fittings.
- 25 12. The process of claim 1, wherein the coating composition is applied in step b) as a transparent sealing coating composition.
13. The process of claim 12, wherein the transparent sealing coating composition is applied only onto at least one sub-area of the surface zones of the substrate which are accessible to the

application of a coated backing foil according to step b) and to supply of thermal energy.

14. Substrates provided with a coating layer using the process of claim

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